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RUEHLB/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 0052

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SIPDIS

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STATE FOR IO/PSC, NEA, AF/RSA AND AF/W

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: WADE MEETS WITH IRANIAN PRESIDENT AND OFFERS
PEACEKEEPERS FOR UNIFIL

¶1. Before departing for the UNGA, President Wade met with Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmedinejad in Dakar on September 13 and offered peacekeepers for the UN force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) on September 14. Following the Iranian President's visit, Senegalese President Abdoulaye Wade insisted that dialogue without preconditions remains the best vehicle for ending the stand-off over uranium enrichment.

¶2. As for UNIFIL, Wade said he has offered to contribute 150 Senegalese troops. (COMMENT: This would be in addition to Senegalese peacekeepers and civilian police in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cote d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, Liberia and Sudan. END COMMENT.)
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